

DEADPOOL

RADDER **BLOOD**

MARVEL

5

ROB LIEFELD
CHAD BOWERS
JAY DAVID RAMOS



LIEFELD
by JAY DAVID RAMOS

PARENTAL ADVISORY

Deadpool's search for his old high school pal, Miles Ellison, A.K.A. Thumper, has taken a turn. Deadpool was hunting down Dr. Van Strutten, the man who transformed Miles into Thumper, when Wolverine and Cable discovered that Van Strutten had turned over a new leaf. In fact, Thumper was trying to kidnap and force the doc to create an army of Super-Soldiers just like him. DP set off to foil these plans, only to find himself at odds with Arcata and her enforcer known as Killville. The fight with Killville did not go well for Wade, but eventually, with the help of Spider-Man, Venompool, and Wolverine, they were able to take down Arcata, even as Killville got away. But the Core, a mercenary group, has Cable in their clutches, and Wolverine's only hope to bust Mr. Summers out lies in this ragtag team of Deadpool, Spidey, and Venompool. Buckle up!



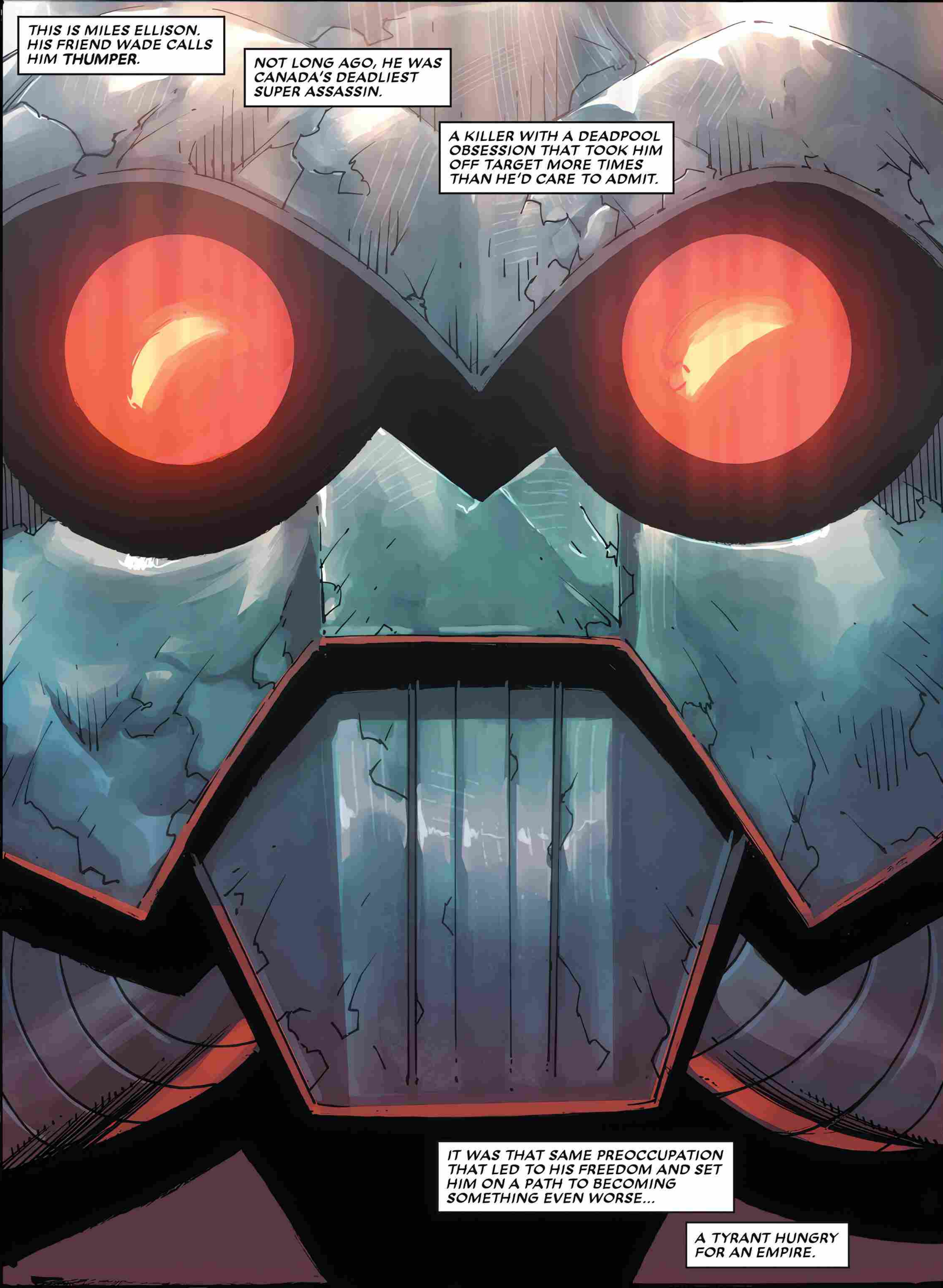
DEADPOOL

STORY
ROB LIEFELD
SCRIPT
CHAD BOWERS

PENCILS
ROB LIEFELD
INKS
**ROB LIEFELD, CORY HAMSCHER
& CHANCE WOLF**
COLOR ARTIST
JAY DAVID RAMOS
LETTERER
VC'S JOE SABINO

COVER
**ROB LIEFELD &
JAY DAVID RAMOS**
VARIANT COVERS
**ROB LIEFELD &
JUAN MANUEL RODRIGUEZ;
NICK BRADSHAW &
RACHELLE ROSENBERG
[NEW CHAMPIONS]**

DESIGN
JAY BOWEN
ASSISTANT EDITOR
DREW BAUMGARTNER
EDITOR
MARK BASSO
EDITOR IN CHIEF
C.B. CEBULSKI



THIS IS MILES ELLISON.
HIS FRIEND WADE CALLS
HIM THUMPER.

NOT LONG AGO, HE WAS
CANADA'S DEADLIEST
SUPER ASSASSIN.

A KILLER WITH A DEADPOOL
OBSESSION THAT TOOK HIM
OFF TARGET MORE TIMES
THAN HE'D CARE TO ADMIT.

IT WAS THAT SAME PREOCCUPATION
THAT LED TO HIS FREEDOM AND SET
HIM ON A PATH TO BECOMING
SOMETHING EVEN WORSE...

A TYRANT HUNGRY
FOR AN EMPIRE.

BUT PATHS CHANGE QUICKLY.

**DECOMMISSIONED
DEPARTMENT H
BLACK SITE.
QUEBEC.**

**RELEASE
ME!**

THE MAN
SOUNDS PISSED,
VAN STRUTTEN.

MY GUESS IS
HE DOESN'T LIKE
BEING STRAPPED DOWN
TO THAT POWER-
DAMPENER ANY MORE
THAN I DO.

SILENCE,
MUTANT!

YOU BOTH
WOULD DO
WELL TO CEASE
STRUGGLING...

...AND
ACCEPT YOUR
FATE.

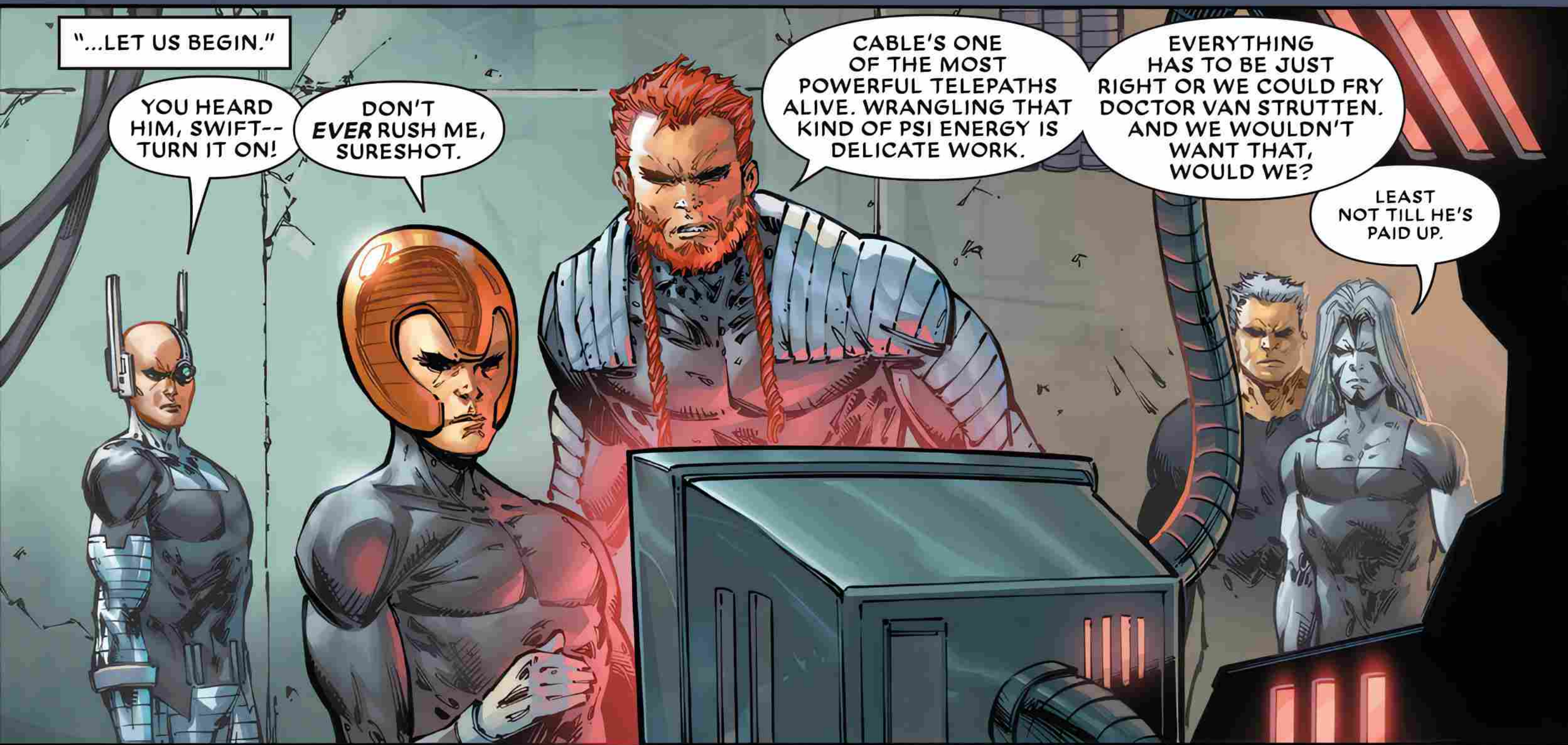
SHOULD'VE
DONE YOUR
HOMEWORK,
DOCTOR--

--I DON'T
DO, "ACCEPTING
FATE."

IT'S
KIND OF
MY WHOLE
DEAL.

I KNOW YOU
BETTER THAN YOU
THINK, CABLE. AS
YOU WILL SOON
DISCOVER.

NOW...



"...LET US BEGIN."

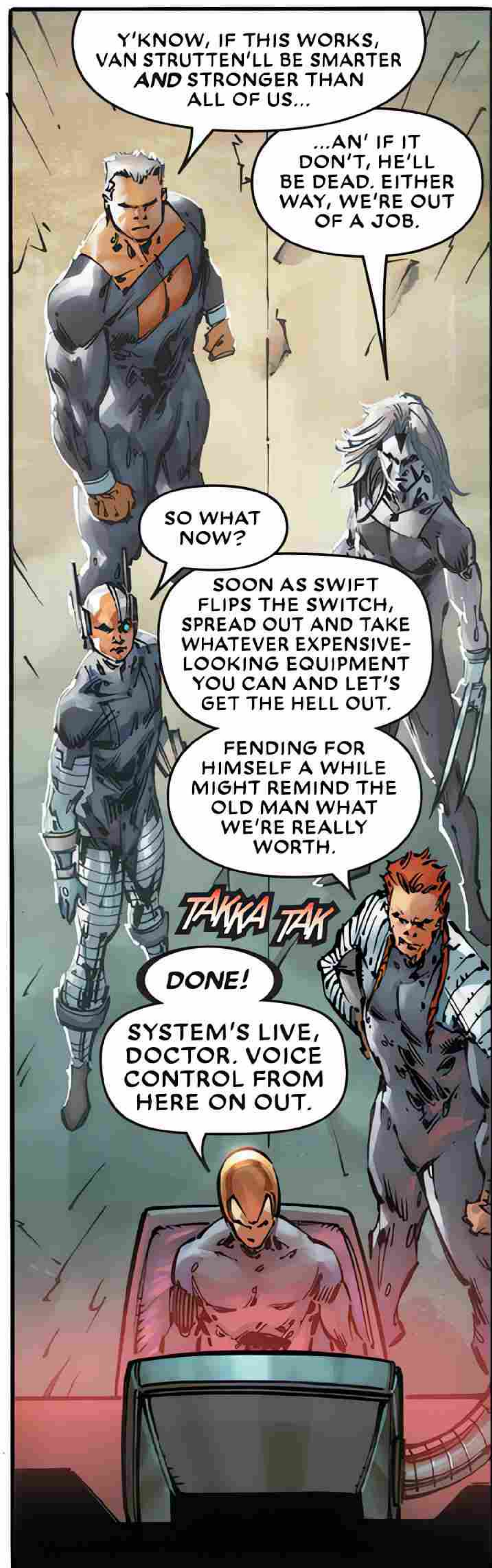
YOU HEARD HIM, SWIFT--
TURN IT ON!

DON'T
EVER RUSH ME,
SURESHOT.

CABLE'S ONE
OF THE MOST
POWERFUL TELEPATHS
ALIVE. WRANGLING THAT
KIND OF PSI ENERGY IS
DELICATE WORK.

EVERYTHING
HAS TO BE JUST
RIGHT OR WE COULD FRY
DOCTOR VAN STRUTTEN.
AND WE WOULDN'T
WANT THAT,
WOULD WE?

LEAST
NOT TILL HE'S
PAID UP.



Y'KNOW, IF THIS WORKS,
VAN STRUTTEN'LL BE SMARTER
AND STRONGER THAN
ALL OF US...

...AN' IF IT
DON'T, HE'LL
BE DEAD. EITHER
WAY, WE'RE OUT
OF A JOB.

SO WHAT
NOW?

SOON AS SWIFT
FLIPS THE SWITCH,
SPREAD OUT AND TAKE
WHATEVER EXPENSIVE-
LOOKING EQUIPMENT
YOU CAN AND LET'S
GET THE HELL OUT.

FENDING FOR
HIMSELF A WHILE
MIGHT REMIND THE
OLD MAN WHAT
WE'RE REALLY
WORTH.

TAKKA TAK

DONE!

SYSTEM'S LIVE,
DOCTOR. VOICE
CONTROL FROM
HERE ON OUT.



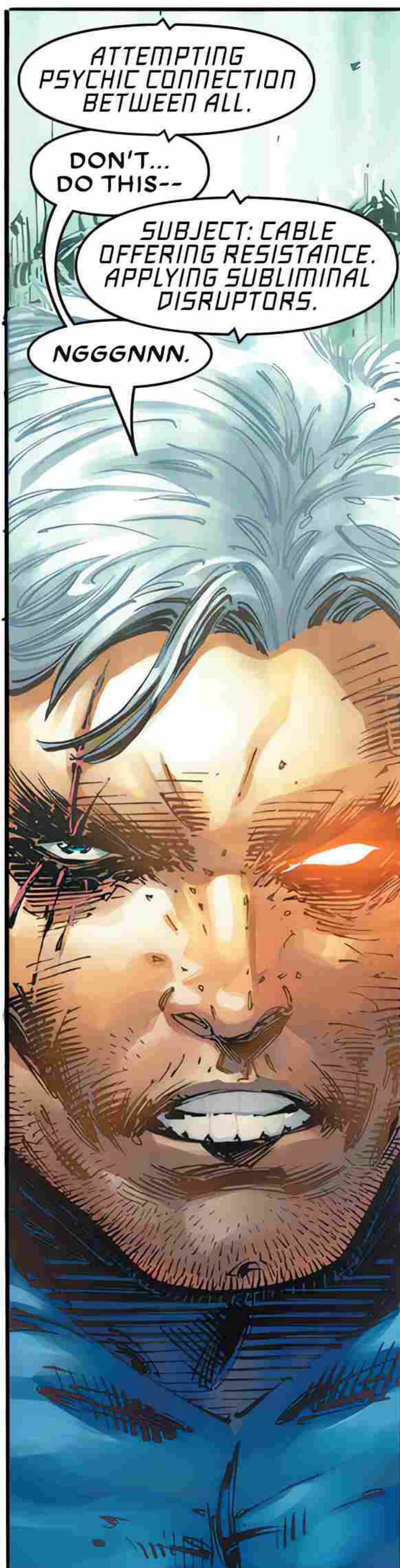
WUNDERBAR.

VOICE RECOGNIZED.
FELIX VAN STRUTTEN.

AWAITING
COMMAND...

"THE DEVIL'S
BRIDGE."

COMMAND
RECEIVED.



ATTEMPTING
PSYCHIC CONNECTION
BETWEEN ALL.

DON'T...
DO THIS--

SUBJECT: CABLE
OFFERING RESISTANCE.
APPLYING SUBLIMINAL
DISRUPTORS.

NGGGNNN.



UNSTABLE
CONNECTION
ESTABLISHED--

THIS...

...WILL
NOT BE...

...MY
END.

COMMENCE
BRAIN WAVE
TRANSFERENCE.

AAAAARRRGGGHHH!

THE AIR EXPLODES
AROUND THEM AS LONG-
FORGOTTEN TWISTED
SCIENCE MAKES THE
IMPOSSIBLE LESS SO.

THE MAN CALLED CABLE
DOES HIS BEST TO PUSH
AGAINST IT--TO FIGHT
BACK--BUT IT'S ALREADY
TOO LATE.

ABILITIES HONED OVER A LIFETIME
OF PAIN AND DISCIPLINE,
RECKLESSLY REPURPOSED AS A
PSIONIC BRIDGE BETWEEN TWO
EQUALLY WICKED MINDS, EACH
VYING FOR THE SAME BODY.

AND ALMOST AS
QUICKLY AS IT
STARTS...

IT ENDS!

**DAMN YOU,
VAN STRUTTEN!**

WHAT WAS
THAT?! WHAT THE
HELL DID YOU
JUST DO?!

NOTHING...

...TO
YOU.

VAN
STRUTTEN--

--ARE
YOU STILL IN
THERE?

÷÷



NEIN!
NEVER AGAIN!

WITNESS THE
REBIRTH OF FELIX
VAN STRUTTEN!

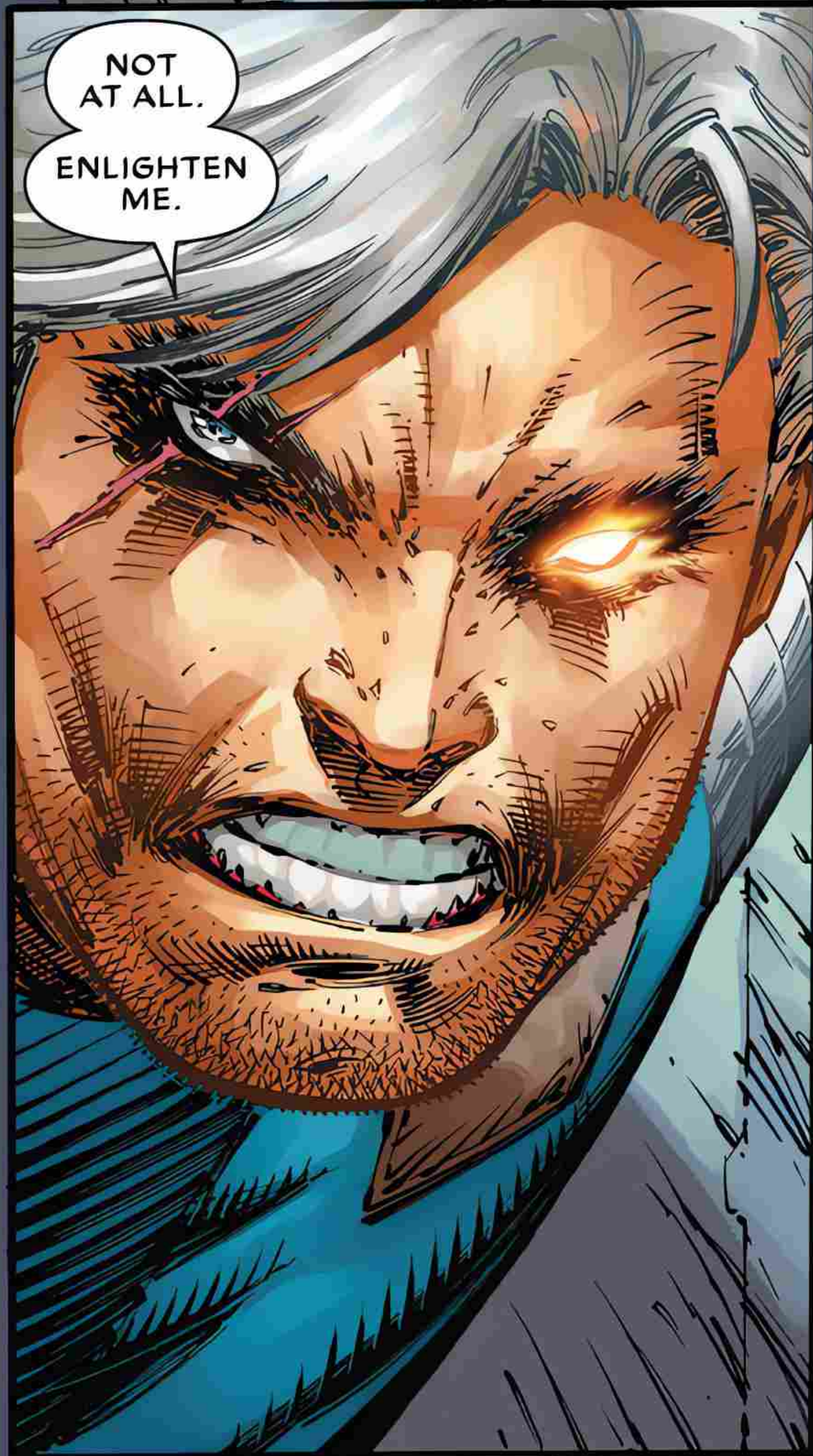


GETTING YOUR MIND INTO
THUMPER'S BODY--THAT'S
WHAT ALL THIS WAS
ABOUT?

I DIDN'T
LIKE YOU MUCH
TO BEGIN WITH, BUT--
YOU'RE A MONSTER,
OLD MAN.

PERHAPS.
BETTER A
MONSTER THAN
AN AGING HUSK
OF A MAN.

DO YOU HAVE
ANY IDEA WHAT
IT'S LIKE TO HAVE
YOUR BODY TURN
AGAINST YOU?



NOT
AT ALL.
ENLIGHTEN
ME.



WHAT IF I
JUST SKIP TO
THE END--

TINK

DTINK

PTINK

VAS--?!

SKIP TO
THE END,
HUH?



A large, red, arrow-shaped structure, resembling a giant arrow, points downwards from the top right towards the bottom left. Deadpool is hanging from the top of this structure by his right arm. He is in his signature red and black suit, holding a silver handgun in his left hand. He has a determined expression. In the bottom left corner, a character with long, flowing white hair and a grey, fur-like body is shown from the chest up, looking up at Deadpool with a wide-eyed, intense expression. In the bottom right corner, a smaller version of Deadpool is shown falling or running away from the viewer, also holding a handgun. The background is a solid teal color.

YEAH
YEAH YEAH, I
GOT IT...

SPIDEY
RESCUES CABLE.
WOLVIE SIZES UP
THE THUMPER
SITUATION...

...AND ME AND
VENOMPOOL HAVE
THE DISTINGUISHED
HONOR OF DEALING WITH
THE CORE--A QUINTET
OF MERCENARIES SO
DASTARDLY, NOBODY'D
EVER EVEN HEARD
OF 'EM TILL
LAST ISSUE!

STARTING WITH
THIS CHUCKLEHEAD!!!
GUESSING YOU MUST
BE SLAY?

I'M
DEADPOOL.
**NICE TO
MEETCHA.**

I KNOW
WHO YOU
ARE.

DOC
VAN STRUTTEN
TOLD US ALL
ABOUT THE CLOWN
WHO RUINED
THUMPER!

VAN
STRUTTEN?!

WHAT'S
HE GOT TO
DO WITH ANY
OF THIS?!



THERE YOU GO, BIG GUY--ALL FREE!

THOSE NULL-CLAMPS LOOKED **REALLY** UNCOMFORTABLE.

I KNOW A GUY IN QUEENS WHO GIVES AN AMAZING WRIST MASSAGE. HE'D PROBABLY CUT YOU A KILLER DISCOUNT ON ACCOUNT OF...WELL, Y'KNOW... YOU HAVING ONLY THE ONE--

IF I KNEW WHO ANY OF THOSE GUYS WERE, I'M SURE I'D BE CONCERNED RIGHT NOW. BUT I'M HERE IN MORE OF AN ADVISORY ROLE, SO...

HOLD UP, YOU FOUND A WEAPON **ALREADY**? DO YOU, LIKE, GROW THOSE THINGS?

REMIND ME TO THANK SURESHOT FOR KEEPING A SPARE ARSENAL ON SITE.

YEAH, AGAIN...NO IDEA.

PLEASE STOP.

YEAH, TOO MUCH.

SHOULD I FREE THE CUTE LITTLE OLD MAN NEXT?

DON'T BOTHER. THAT CUTE LITTLE OLD MAN JUST MOVED HIS MIND INTO THUMPER'S BODY.

HE WAS TEN STEPS AHEAD OF US ALL ALONG. PUT HIMSELF IN DANGER SO WE'D PROTECT HIM-- SO HE COULD GET CLOSE TO ME. AND I LET HIM!

THUMPER WAS BAD BEFORE, BUT WITH VAN STRUTTEN IN CONTROL...

STAB HIS EYES! HE COULD BE ANOTHER EN SABAH NUR.

WILL YOU JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED ME TO DO?



HIT STUFF. DON'T GET SHOT.

CAN DO.



WHAT THE HELL--AIN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE DEADPOOL'S DANCIN' PARTNER?

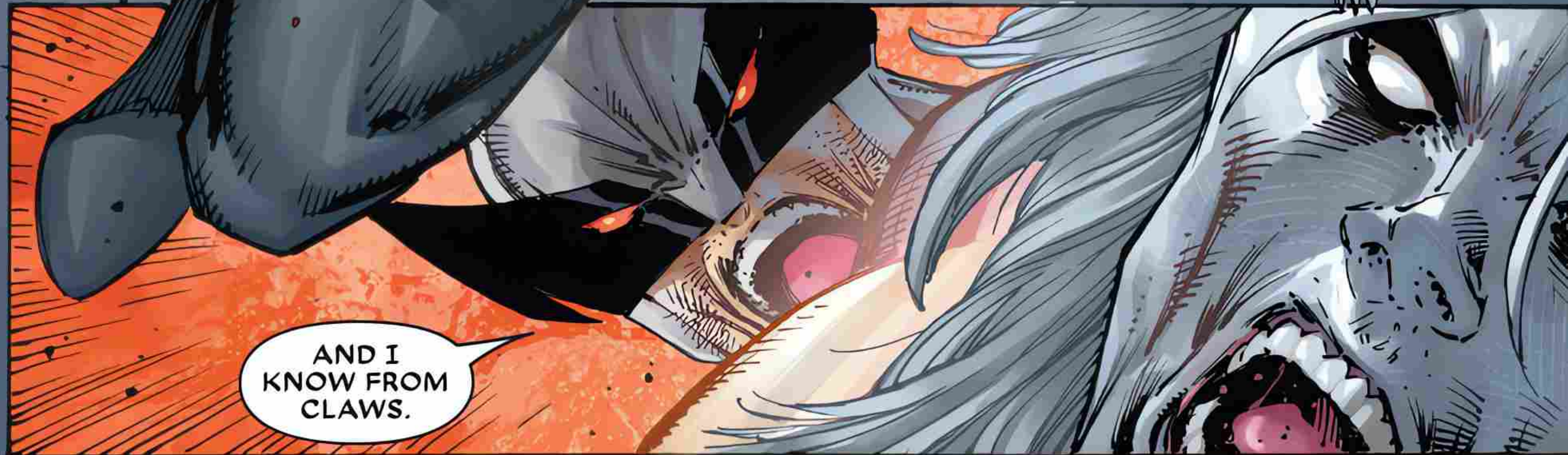
HE DITCHED ME. GUESS HE'D RATHER PLAY WITH THUMPER. JEALOUS?



MAYBE A LITTLE.

NICE CLAWS Y'GOT THERE--

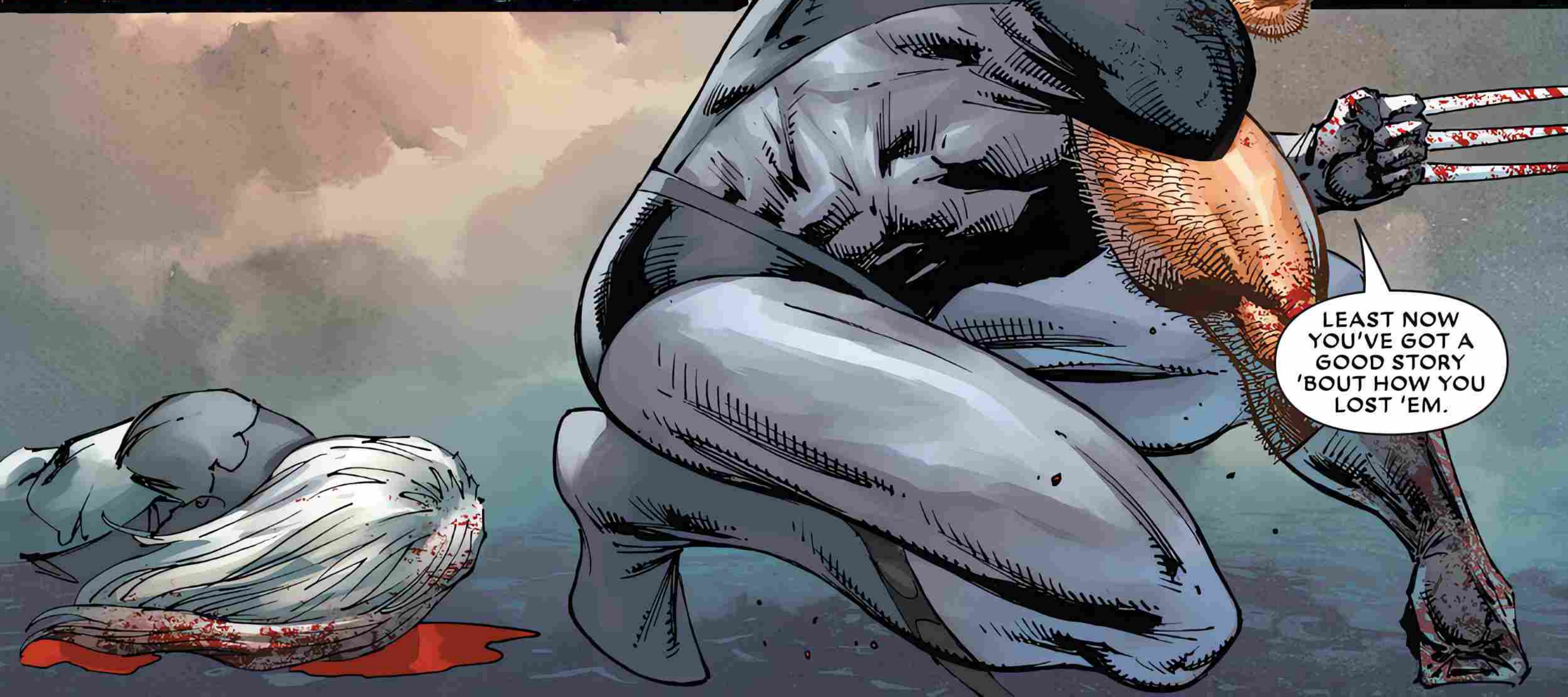
UHN!



AND I KNOW FROM CLAWS.



HELL, THEY EVEN SMELL SHARP.





WHY'S THERE ALWAYS LESS STUFF TO SWING FROM IN CANADA?!

I DON'T GUESS IT'S THE KIND OF THING EVERYDAY FOLKS WOULD NOTICE OR COMPLAIN ABOUT...

...BUT FOR RIDICULOUSLY FRIENDLY PROVINCIAL SPIDER-MEN LIKE ME, IT CAN BE A REAL BUMMER!

THUMPER, RIGHT? OR WAS IT VAN STRUTTEN? STRUMPER, MAYBE?

ANYWAY, CABLE SAID YOU WANTED TO TAKE OVER THE COUNTRY. AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN WITH NO MANNERS, I'D LIKE TO LODGE A FORMAL COMPLAINT!



EVERYTHING'S TOO SHORT!



QUIT TOYIN' WITH HIM, WEBS--HE AIN'T THE TYPE!

PUT HIM DOWN, OR GET OUT OF THE WAY!

WHAT'D YOU SAY, BUB?

**BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA**

"CAN'T HEAR
YOU OVER ALL
THE GUNFIRE!"

I'M USED TO
BEING A WEAPON.
BEEN THAT WAY MY
ENTIRE LIFE. I'VE
COME TO TERMS
WITH IT IN MY
OWN WAY.

BUT TODAY,
YOU USED ME
LIKE A TOOL TO
STEAL ANOTHER
MAN'S LIFE!

AND
THAT I CAN'T
ABIDE.

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

IF ANY
PART OF THE
OLD THUMPER'S
STILL IN THERE,
I'M SORRY.

NOW
REST IN
PEACE.

BUDDA
BUDDA

SURELY YOU
DO NOT MOURN
THE MAN I HAVE
REPLACED?

JUST DAYS
AGO, YOU WOULD
HAVE KILLED HIM
YOURSELF IF GIVEN
THE CHANCE--

TING

TANK

CLANK





--HOW DOES
WHAT I HAVE
DONE MAKE ME
ANY WORSE?

YOU TOOK
A KINDHEARTED
KID WITH THE WORLD'S
WORST CASE OF HERO
WORSHIP AND MADE HIM
INTO AN UNSTOPPABLE
KILLING MACHINE--

--THEN YOU
MOVED INTO
HIS BODY!

YOU
NEED MORE
EXAMPLES?

YOU SPEAK
OF HIM AS IF YOU
WERE FRIENDS.

THEY
WEREN'T.

BUT **WE**
WERE!

LET'S CRACK
THIS #@%\$#@
OPEN AND SEE
WHAT'S INSIDE,
NATE!

SLAM

VWAZ
VWAZ
VWAZ

EASIER SAID
THAN DONE, I'M
AFRAID!

HIS SKIN ALONE
IS TOUGHER THAN A
RHINO'S HIDE. THE GUNS
HERE ARE TOO LOW-TECH,
AND I'M CUT OFF FROM
GRAYMALKIN.*

HEAVEN HELP
US IF HE EVER
ACTUALLY PUTS
HIS ARMOR
BACK ON.

VWAZ

VWAZ

*IT HAPPENED LAST
ISSUE. --MARK

YEAH, WELL,
THEN LET'S
DEFINITELY NOT
BRING THAT
UP AGAIN.

HEAR THAT,
OLD MAN? WE
GOTTA SOFTEN YOU
UP BEFORE I GET
TO THE GOOEY
PARTS.

HAHAHAHAHA!

GO ON!
BREAK EVERY
BONE IN YOUR
BODY!

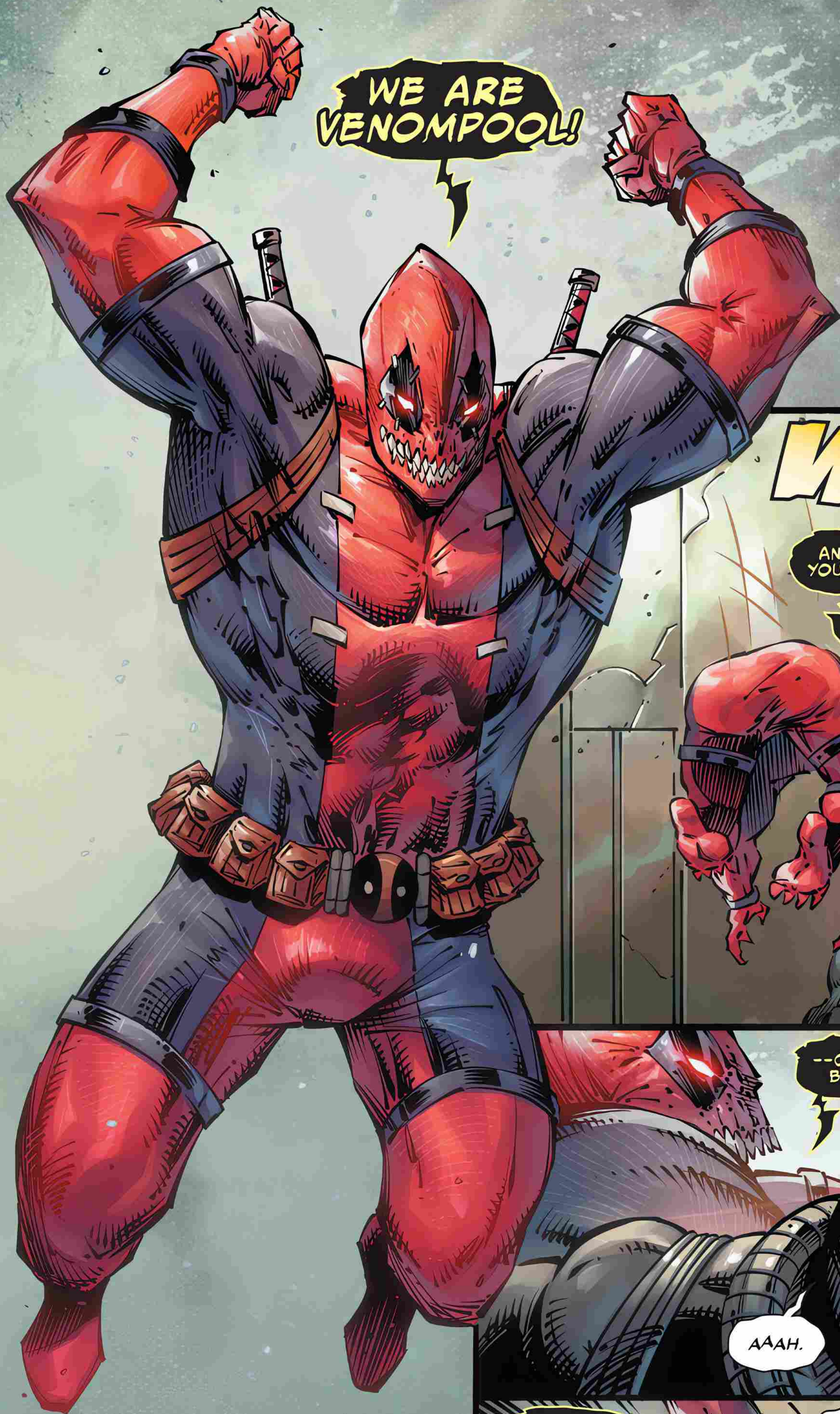
I WON'T
FEEL A
THING!

KRACK



OH, I
NEVER SAID I
WAS GONNA
DO IT.

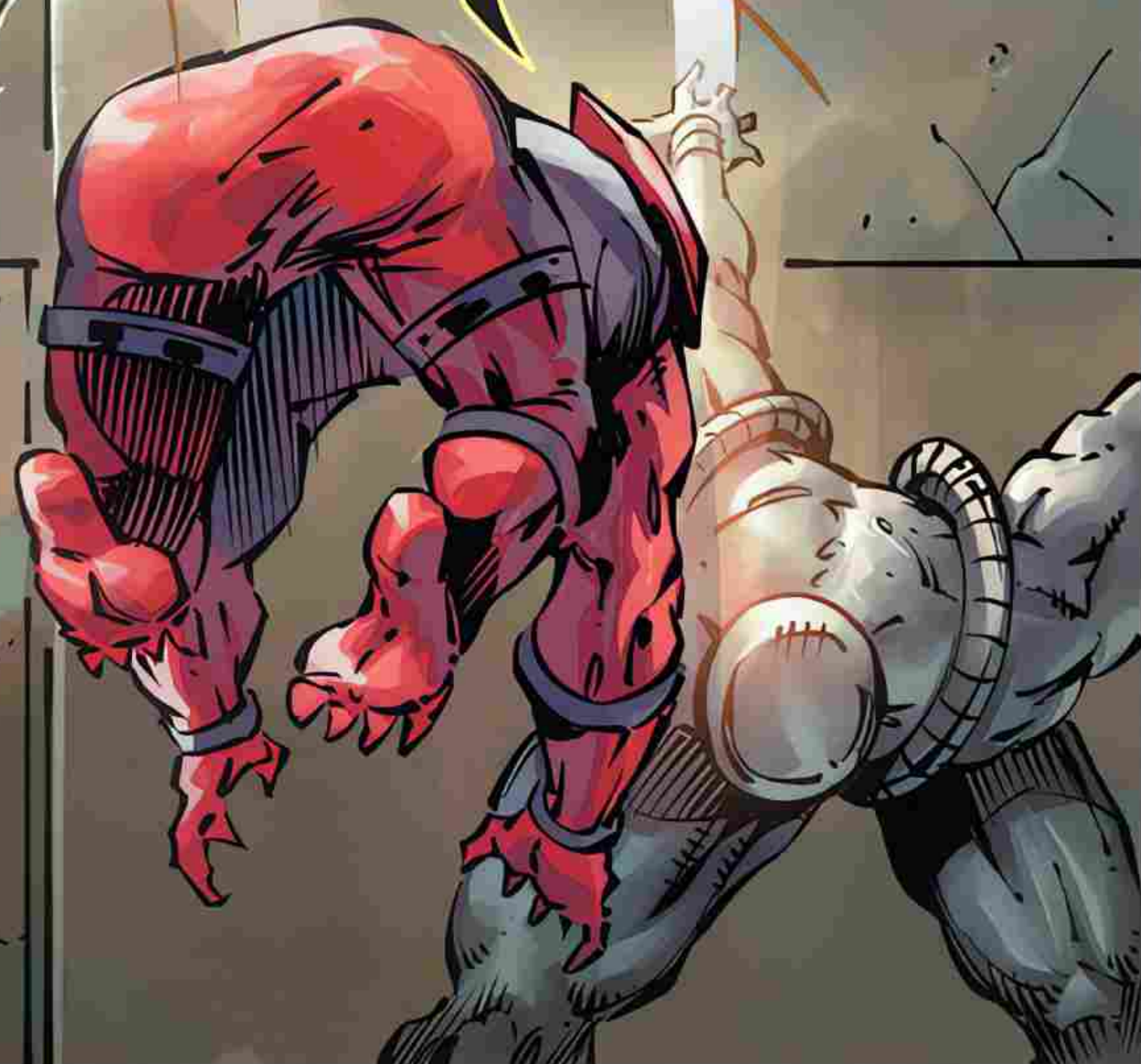
MEIN
GOTT.
WHO--



WE ARE
VENOMPOOL!

WHAM

AND
YOU--



--COULD
BE--

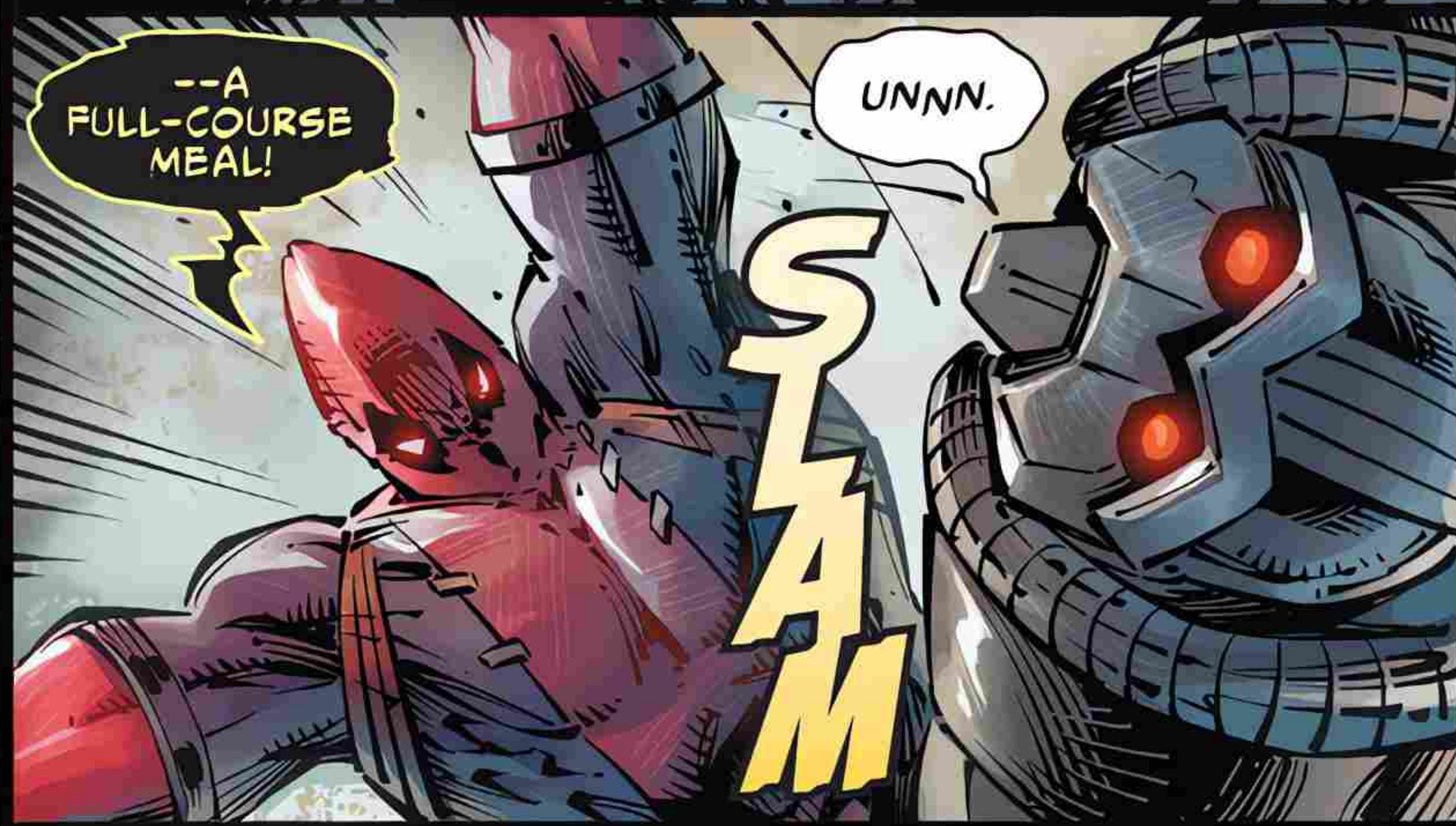
POW

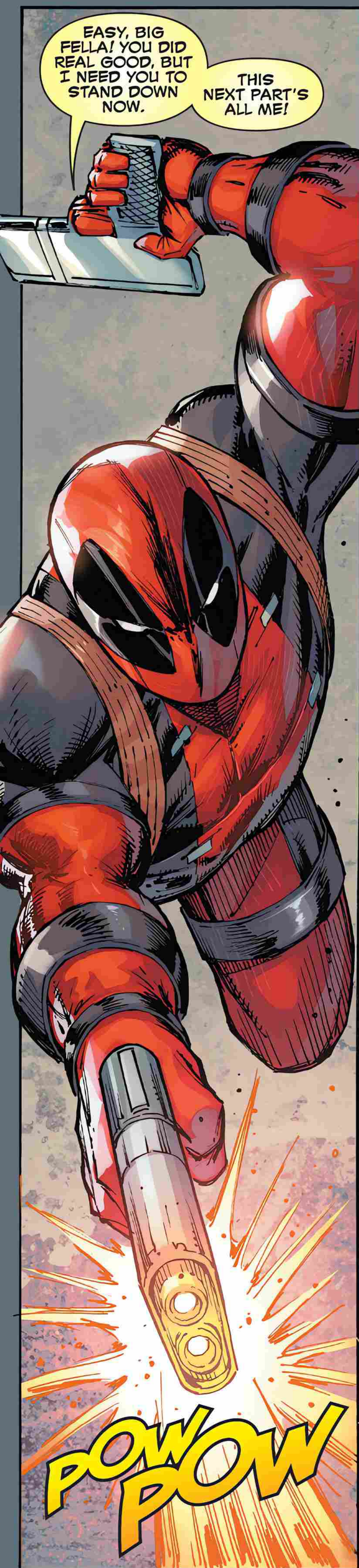
AAAH.

--A
FULL-COURSE
MEAL!

UNNN.

SLAM





EASY, BIG FELLA! YOU DID REAL GOOD, BUT I NEED YOU TO STAND DOWN NOW.

THIS NEXT PART'S ALL ME!



REALLY, MORE GUNS?

AFTER ALL THAT HARD WORK TO...WHAT DID YOU CALL IT... "SOFTEN ME UP"?

YOU WERE NEVER VERY GOOD AT THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX.

MILES ON THE OTHER HAND...HE HAD A WONDERFUL IMAGINATION.

PITY HE HAD TO LOSE IT--ALONG WITH EVERYTHING ELSE I TOOK FROM HIM!



OKAY...

YOU WANT OUTSIDE THE BOX?

I'LL GIVE YOU--
NNNNNGGGNN--

--OUTSIDE THE BOX.

OH, ALMOST FORGOT...

SHNIKT.



I REALLY
THINK I COULD'VE
SAVED HIM,
Y'KNOW?

ALL I
NEEDED WAS A
CHANCE TO TALK
TO HIM--

--THE MERC
WITH THE MOUTH
AND THE BEHEMOTH
WITH THE...I DON'T
KNOW, BREATHING
APPARATUS?

BLAM

JUST ONE
UGLY-FACE TO
ANOTHER, FIGURING
THINGS OUT!

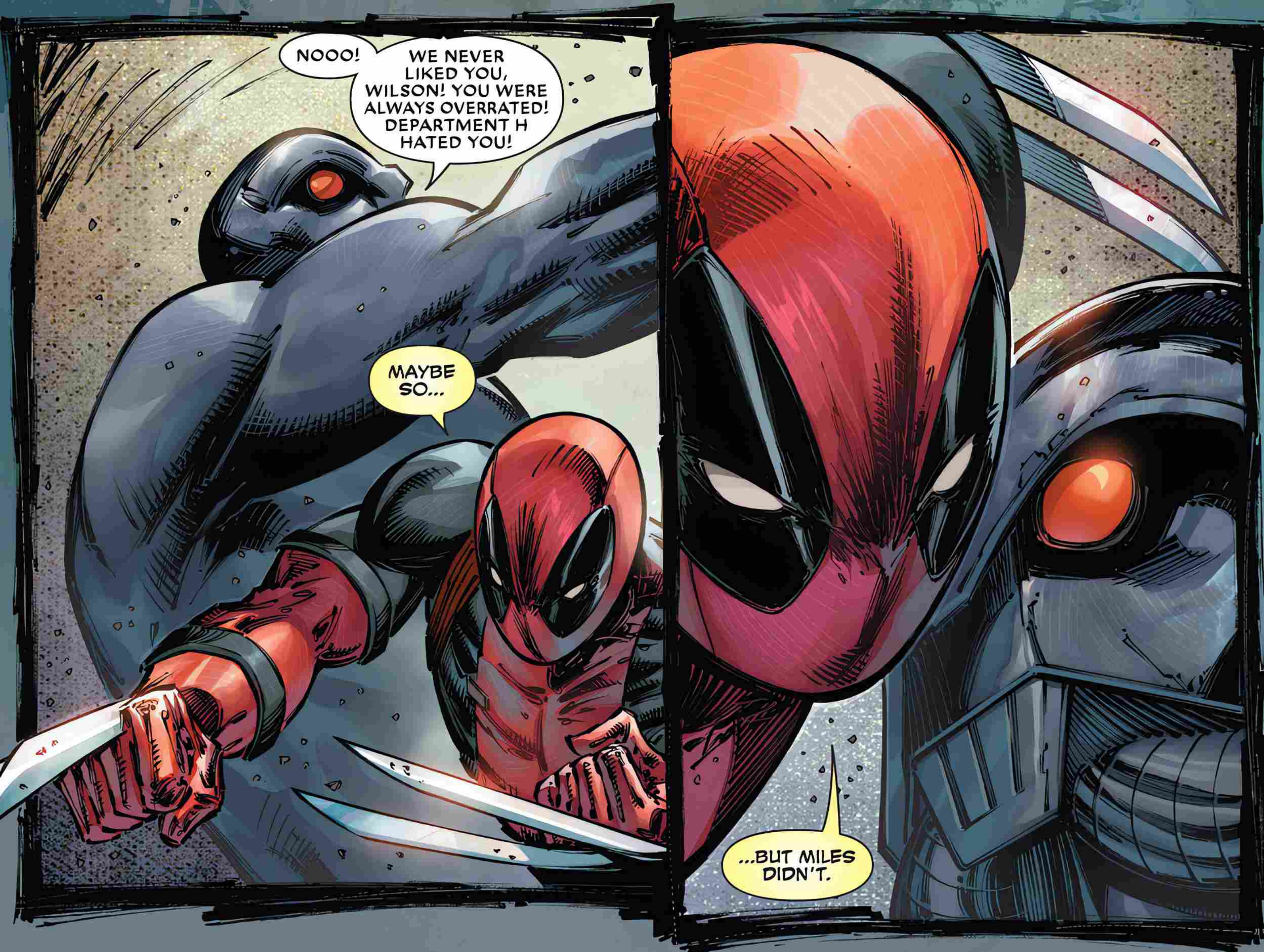
BUT
YOU @#\$%&@
IT UP.





SO I'M
REALLY GONNA
ENJOY WATCHING
YOU DIE.

AAAARRGH!



NOOO!
WE NEVER
LIKED YOU,
WILSON! YOU WERE
ALWAYS OVERRATED!
DEPARTMENT H
HATED YOU!

MAYBE
SO...

...BUT MILES
DIDN'T.



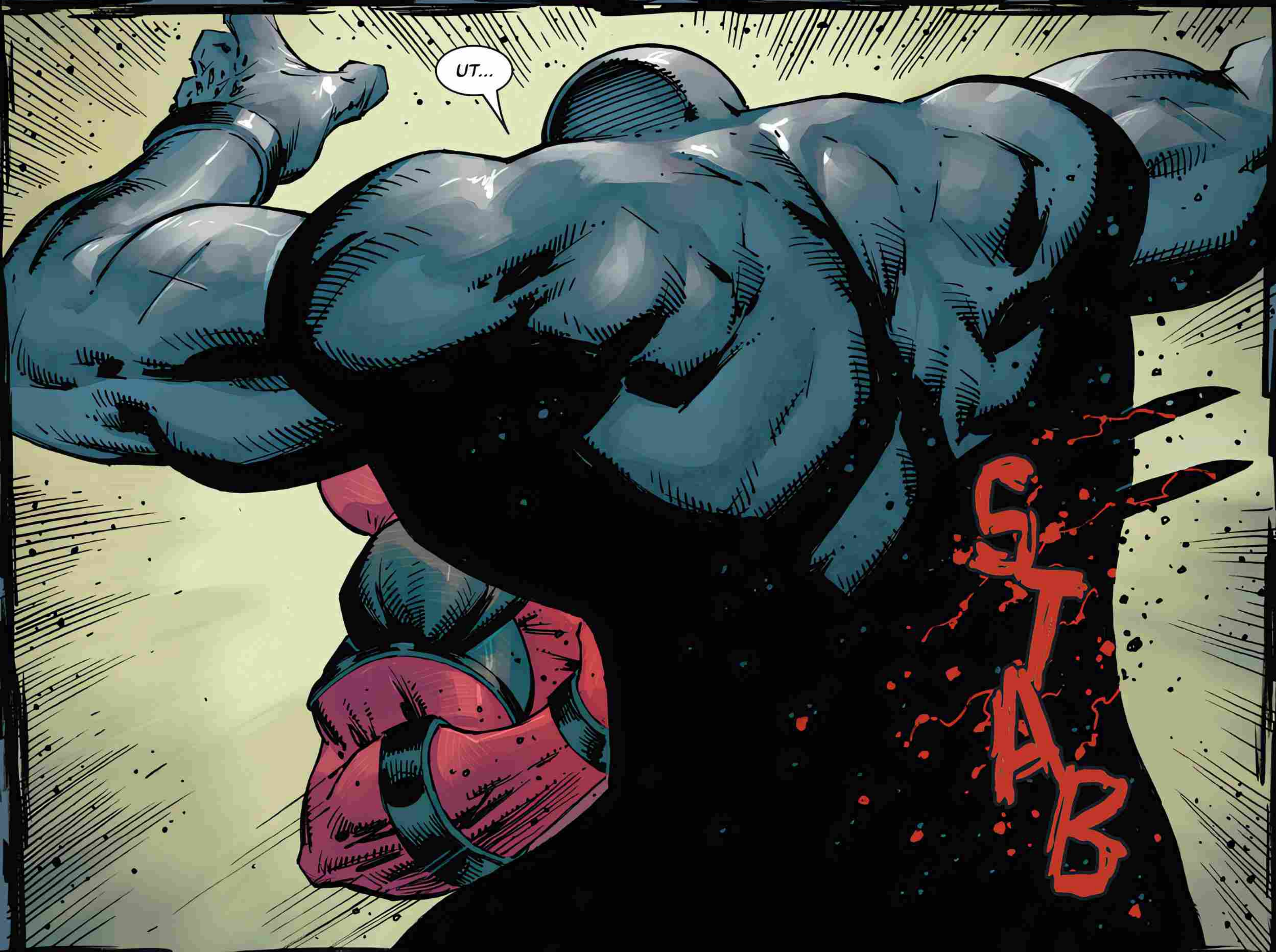
PRETTY
FANCY WITH
THOSE CLAWS,
KID!
WHERE'D
YOU LEARN
THAT?



FROM
YOU, ALL
RIGHT?
I LEARNED
IT BY WATCHING
YOU.

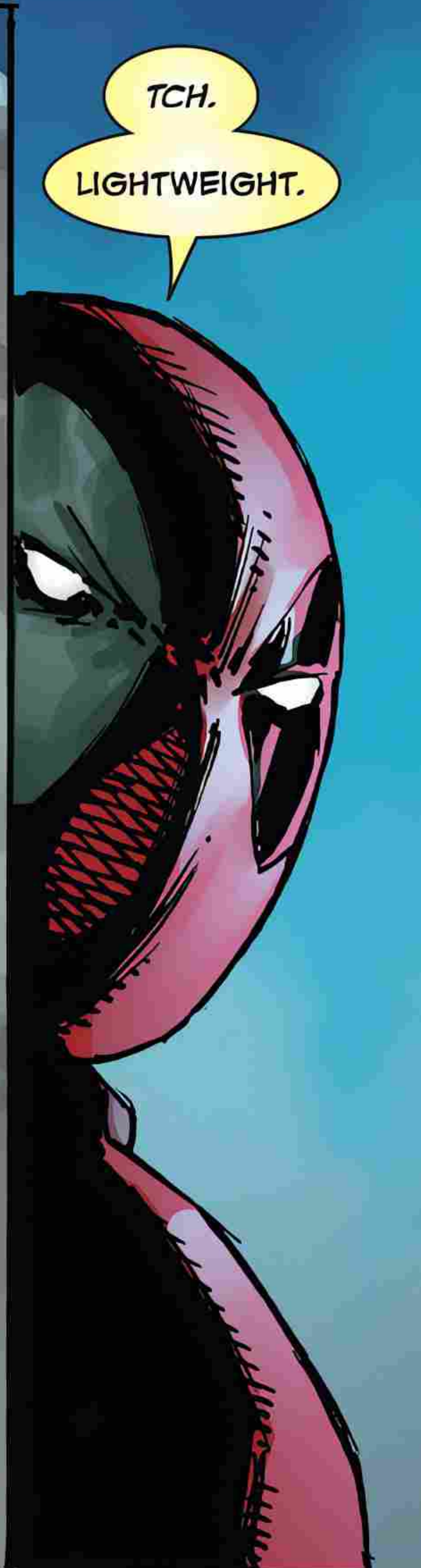


NOTHING?
REALLY?
MILES
WOULD'VE THOUGHT
IT WAS HILARIOUS!



UT...

STABB





WHAT'S THE MATTER, WILSON? WHAT'RE YA DOIN'?

LISTENING.



HEAR THAT?

≡SIGH≡
YEAH... UNFORTUNATELY.

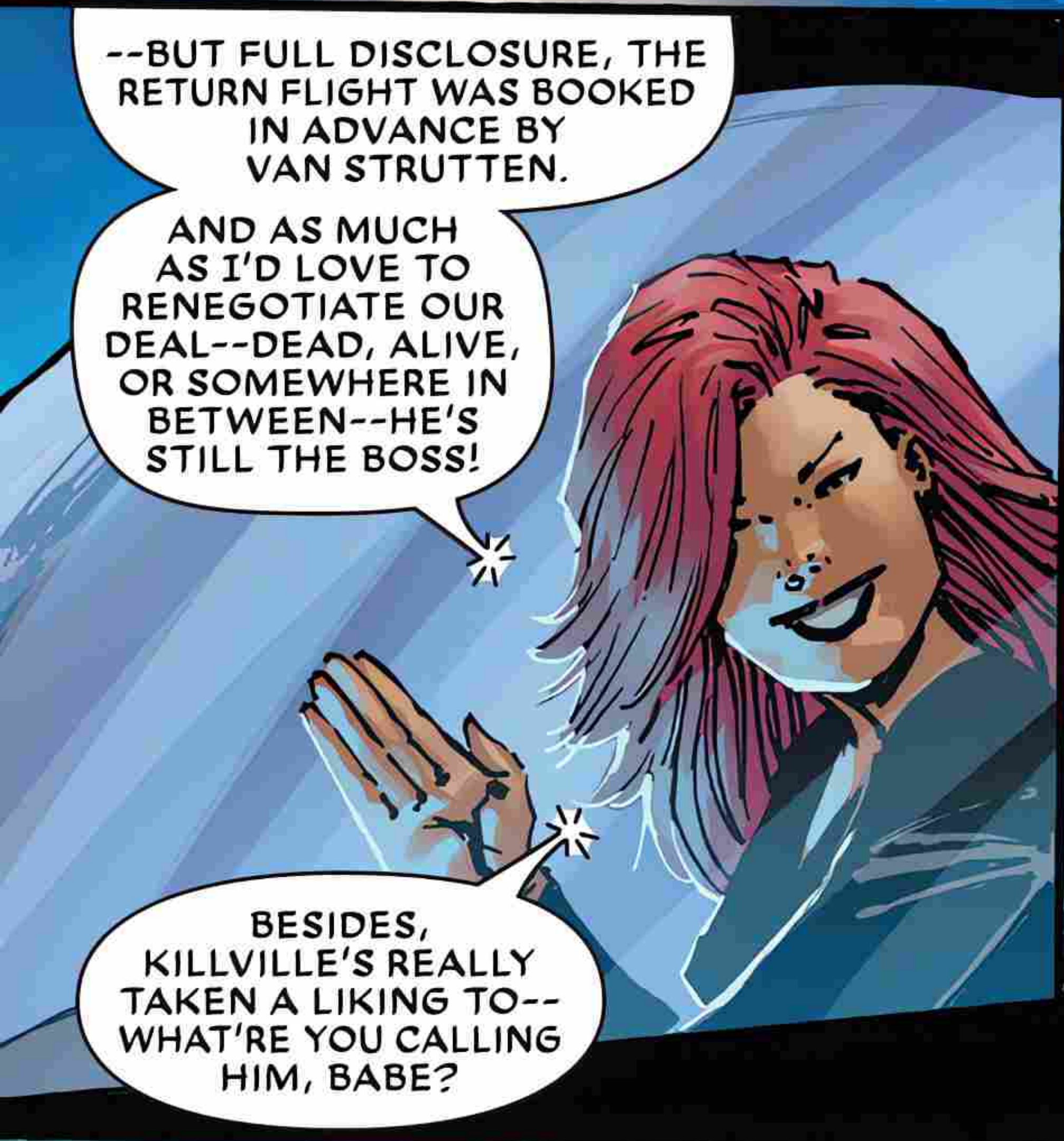


HERE THEY COME.



I KNOW YOU GUYS WERE EXPECTING A LIFT BACK TO THE STATES--

FWWWBOOOOSSS



--BUT FULL DISCLOSURE, THE RETURN FLIGHT WAS BOOKED IN ADVANCE BY VAN STRUTTEN.

AND AS MUCH AS I'D LOVE TO RENEGOTIATE OUR DEAL--DEAD, ALIVE, OR SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN--HE'S STILL THE BOSS!

BESIDES, KILLVILLE'S REALLY TAKEN A LIKING TO-- WHAT'RE YOU CALLING HIM, BABE?



THE MAN OF TWO SOULS?



"MAN OF TWO SOULS!" I LOVE IT!

SEE YOU SOON, BOYS!

UM, WAS THAT OUR RIDE?

YEAH.



≡SNIFF≡

≡SNIFF≡

I SMELL A TRILOGY!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

OH, I JUST THOUGHT--

NO. THAT'S MY THING.

≡SNIFF≡

-FINIS-

NEXT:

**COMING IN
2024!**



**CABLE:
FIRST CONTACT**